

# THE WALKING DEAD<sup>TM</sup>



KIRKMAN • ADLARD • RATHBURN



IMAGE COMICS PRESENTS

# THE WALKING DEAD™

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**CLIFF RATHBURN**

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**RUS WOOTON**

Letterer

**SEAN MACKIEWICZ**

Editor

## Previously:

While Jesus tails Dwight, Rick reveals to Andrea his plan to find the Saviors' camp. But those not let in on Rick's secret agenda, including Carl, find it harder to trust his leadership. Especially when Negan arrives to collect his tribute and assert his dominance...

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AND WITH THAT, WE'LL BE GOING NOW...



TAKE YOUR TIME CLOSING THE GATE WHEN WE'RE GONE... ENJOY HOW **SAFE** WE MADE THIS AREA FOR YOU WHILE WE WERE WAITING.

WE'RE REALLY NICE PEOPLE WHEN YOU GET TO KNOW US.

HONEST.



HELP ME SHUT THE GATE.



WAIT, WHAT DID HE JUST SAY TO YOU WHEN HE WHISPERED?

IT'S NOT IMPORTANT.









THAT IS HOW WE'RE GOING TO SURVIVE... BY FOLLOWING HIS RULES.

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO FOLLOW HIS RULES, THAT'S FINE. I'LL PULL THIS GATE BACK OPEN AND YOU CAN HIT THE ROAD.

SEE HOW YOU FARE OUT THERE ON YOUR OWN....



RICK. DON'T.



NO, THIS IS GODDAMN SERIOUS, AND I'M NOT GOING TO HAVE SOMEONE FLYING OFF THE HANDLE AND GETTING US ALL KILLED!

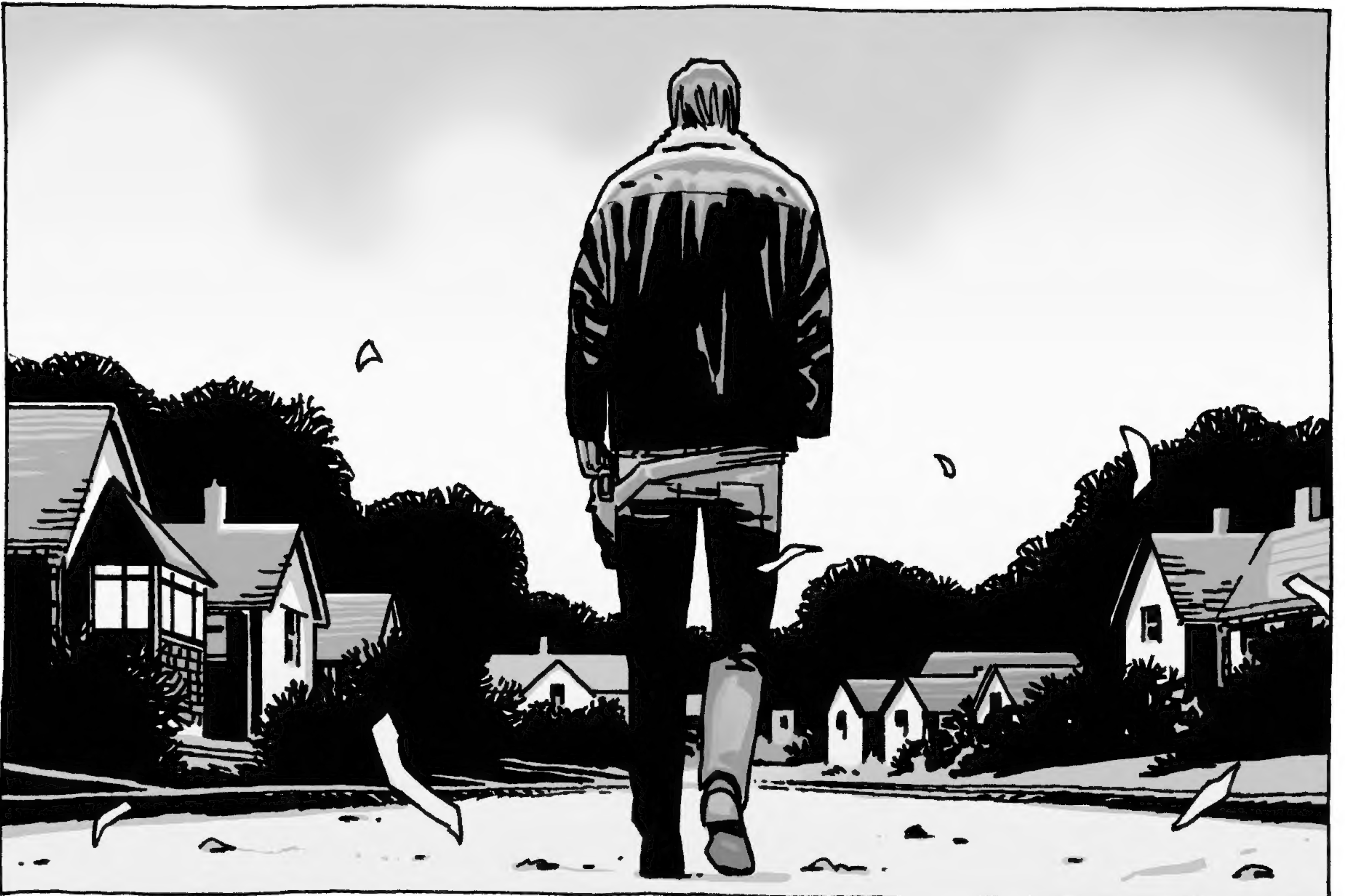
NO FUCKING WAY!



ANYONE WANT TO TRY THEIR LUCK? JUST SAY THE WORD AND I'LL OPEN THE GATE.

ANYONE?





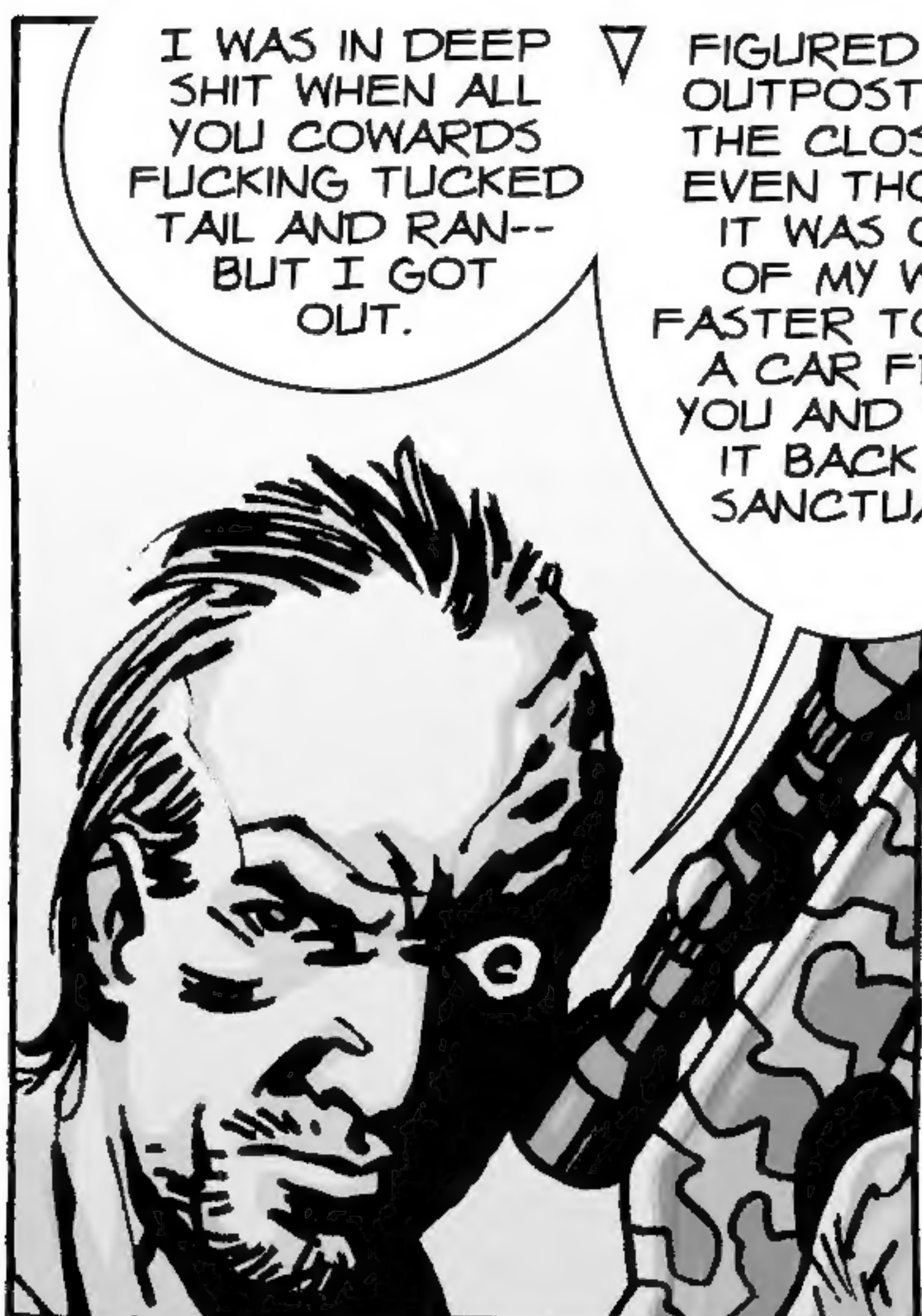




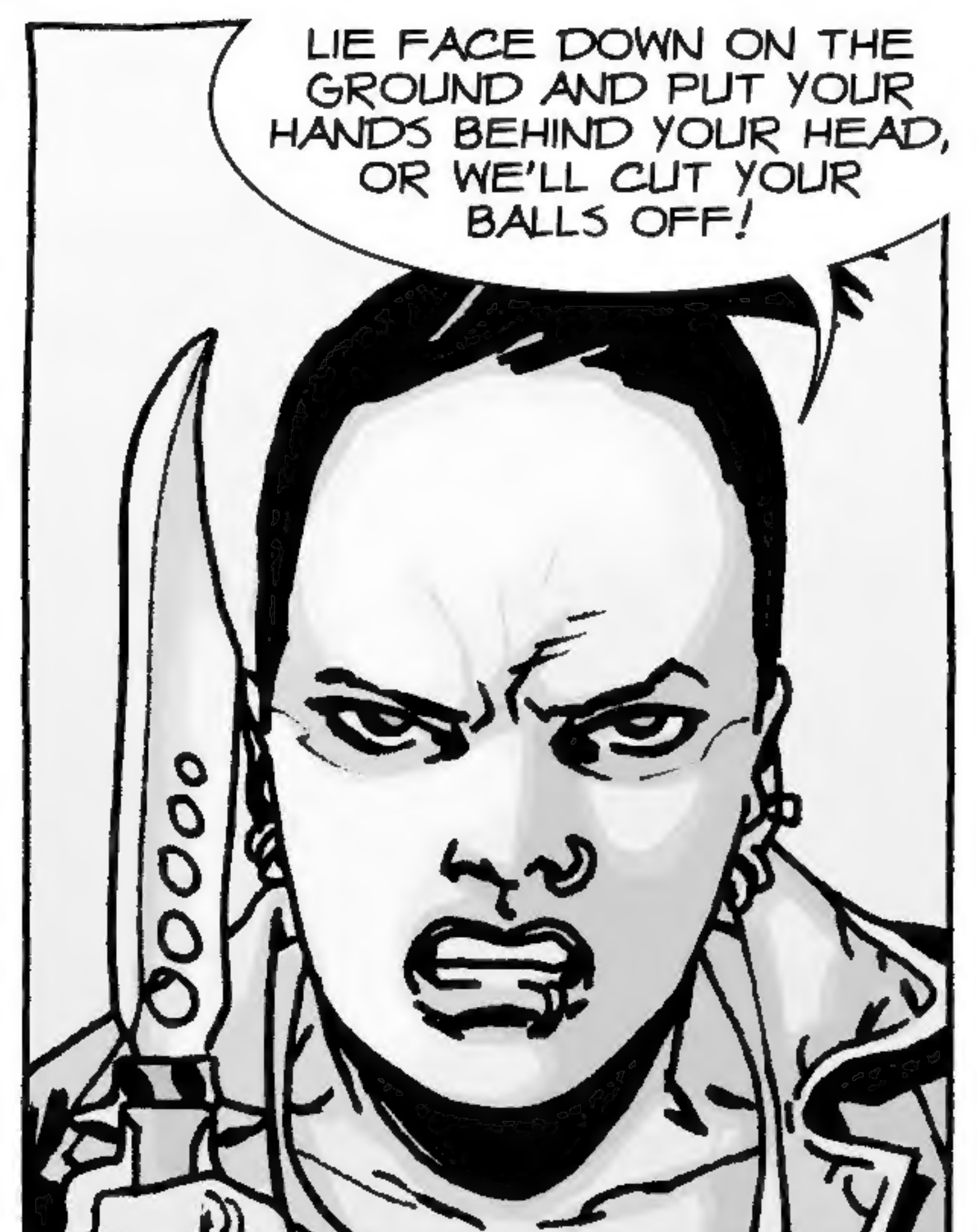
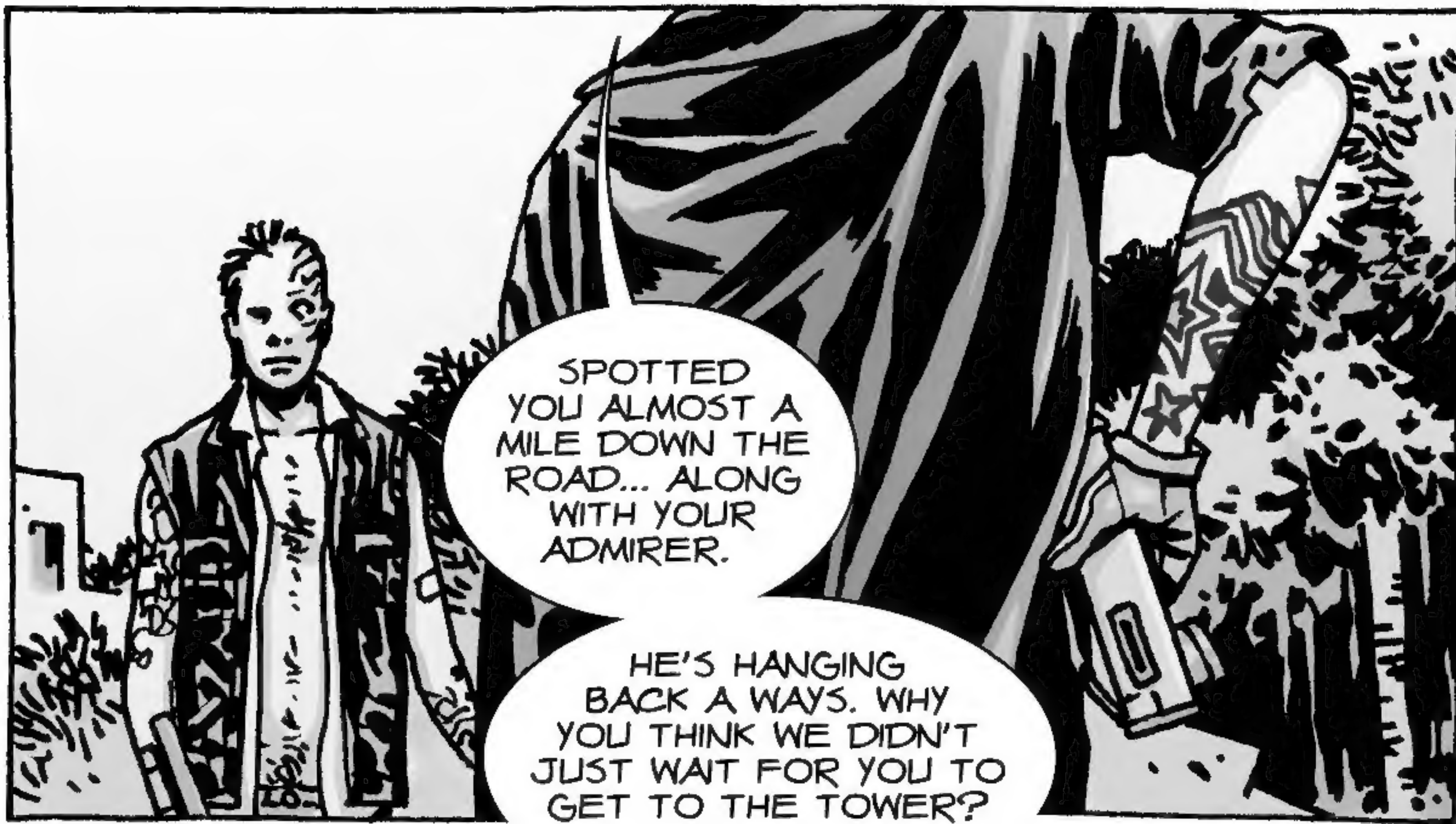






























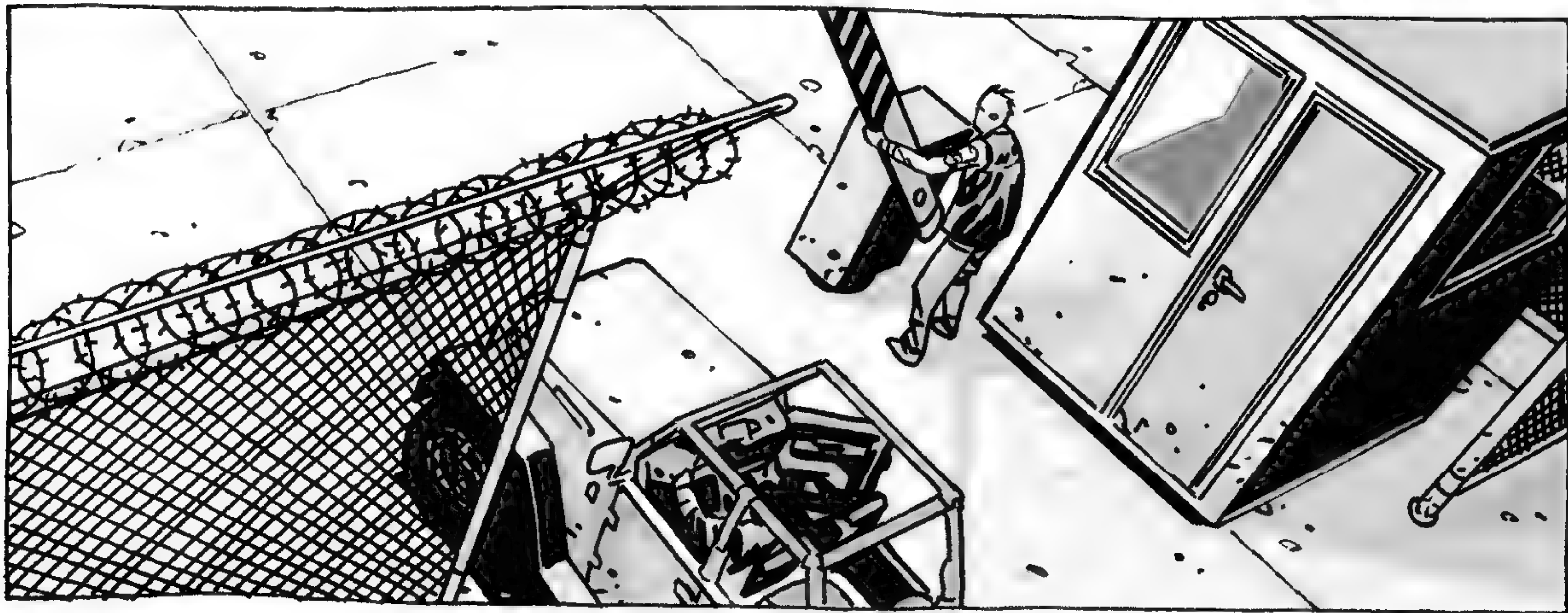
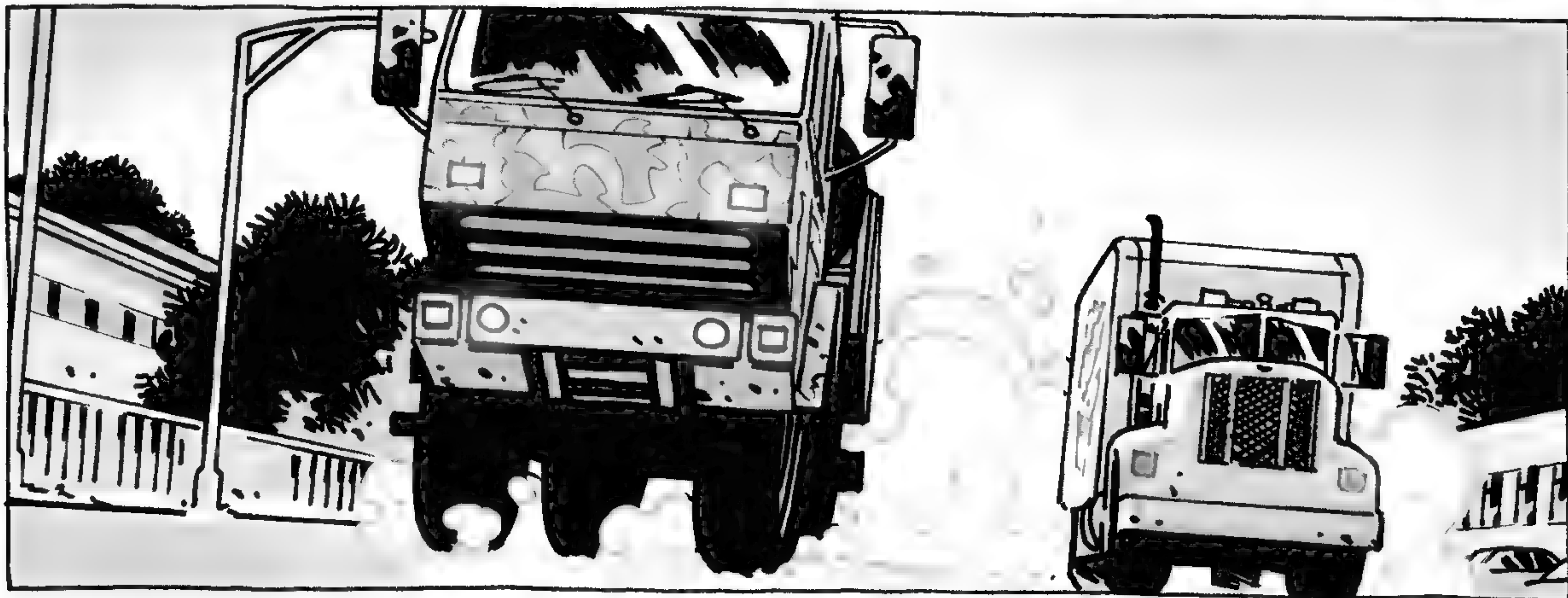






GOD DAMN  
IT, GET US  
INSIDE.

HURRY.







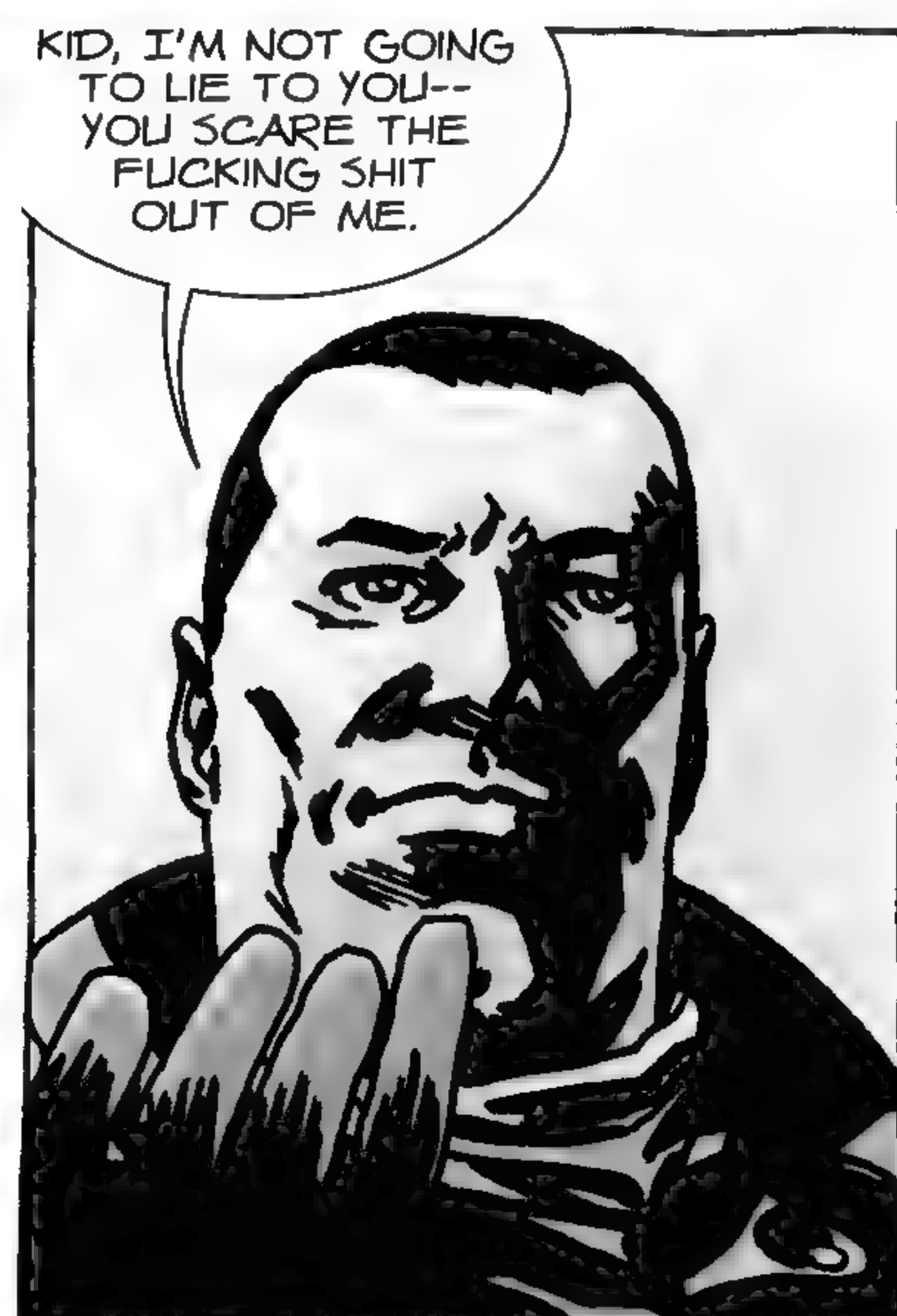




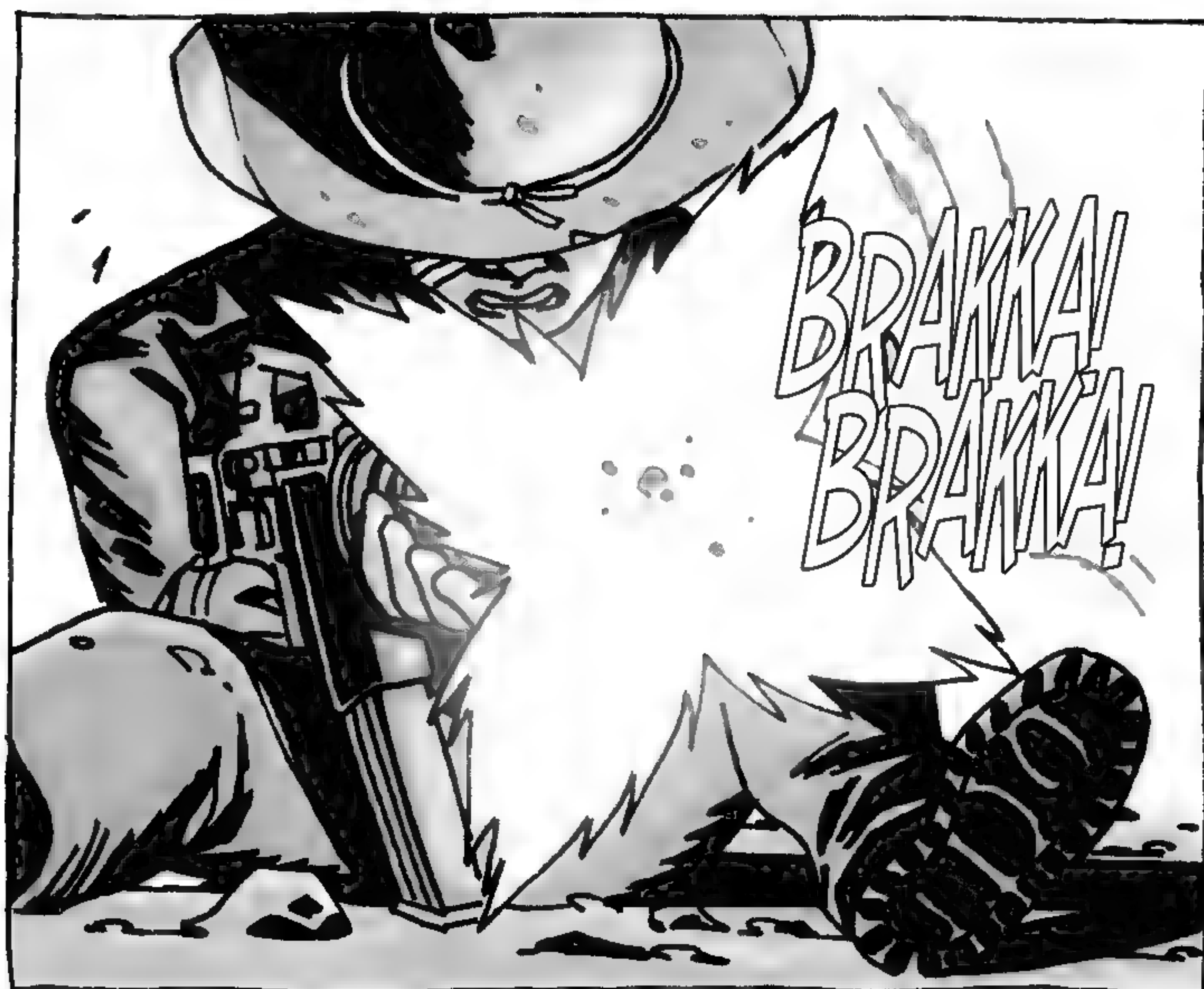




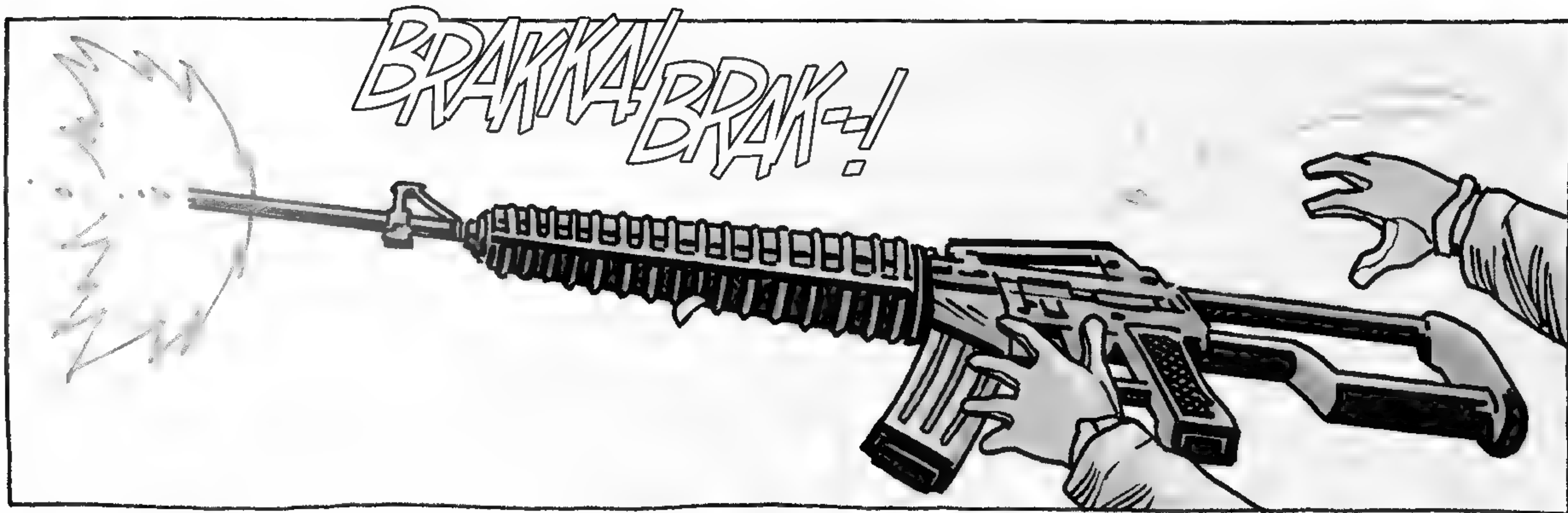














IS THAT  
ANY WAY  
TO TREAT  
OUR NEW  
GUEST?





# LETTER HACKS

WRITE TO US AT:

WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM

## Letter Hacks!

**Sean here. I was almost stampeded by a zombie horde at NYCC last week and now I officially feel like “one of you.” Thanks goes to all of you that stopped by the Skybound booth and said what’s up. Except for Michael Rooker. That dude dropped an anarchy bomb when he swung through after THE WALKING DEAD Season 3 panel. One of our booth workers may or may not have stink palmed him.**

**HA! I can’t follow that! Letters!**

Dear Mr. Kirkman,

While I have loved nearly everything you have done I’ve been supporting you since BATTLE POPE and was there to anxiously pre-order issue #1 of TWD. For the record, I knew it would be a hit the moment I read it. I have made two hour roundtrips for years just to get new issues of BATTLE POPE, TWD, INVINCIBLE, etc. (Hang in there, there’s a point to all of this cred building.) A few months after TWD came out, I even drove all the way to Texas to get an original page and meet the former artist who shall not be named., but having said all of this, I seriously must question your choice on the direction of issue #102. What? You were probably expecting to me to moan about Glenn getting his skull crushed in. Hell no! Fuck Glenn! (I’m secretly crying inside.) What I am questioning is your choice to hire an editor named Sean Mackiewicz. I’ve known this Mackiewicz family you speak of and every last one of them is a godless commie. If you’re not careful, before you know it, strong characters like Rick and Michonne will be secretly edited to be mindless followers only good for bowing to their communist overlord Negan. Oh shit! It’s already happening...

Sincerely,  
godless commie Thomas Mackiewicz

**Thomas, you’re about to become an unperson. More perogies for me at Christmas, sucka!**

*So far, this is like the best letters column we’ve ever done.*

Great job printing Steven’s letter. It was both hilarious/sick. Also I live in Philly and unfortunately we have a football coach who’s been repeating himself (as one reader accused Mr. Kirkman of) for 14 seasons. Not once has he offered any explanations for his repeated blunders other than to say, “I gotta do a better job.” How refreshing was it to read an eloquent explanation from the top guy for a particular course of action. Kudos on connecting with your audience. And remember every gripe about offing Glenn is a testament to your superb character development. Umm OK, I think that’s enough gushing. Long time comic fan, first time I chose to write in. Here’s hoping it makes it to print (feel free to edit huge chunks) and if it does also hoping Andy Reid is as big a fan as I am.

Keep Writing,  
Rasheed Williams  
Philly

**A chance to talk sports and leave Robert speechless? Done. If Andy Reid were in THE WALKING DEAD, let’s just say he would still be kicking around after 100 issues, while his community was doomed by poor decisions and clock mismanagement. Also, go Pats!**

*I honestly don’t even know who Andy Reid is.*

Congratulations, team, I’m back! I was wandering from the group for months but have now found my way back to the site. I was lost due to disparaging dialogue, anti-climactic action, the book seemingly taking a back seat to the show (HUGE NO-NO!), and a round-about, seen-it-before plot. Hey, I get it, we all become a little bit bored with the things we’ve been doing for years. This goes for both sides - the receiver and the giver. I’ve been lumbering with you since issue #30 and haven’t stopped. Needless to say, I was getting a bit tired. I was also resenting that it seemed as time went on more time went into Letter Hacks than the story.

*Okay... back to work...*

I’ve re-read the entire series in three sittings and I gotta say I miss when the people getting into Hacks seemed like family that I wanted to pay attention to: the large font drew me in, only one page (front and back), and somewhat intelligent responses to the stories are what made me want to stick around. Then it tuned into a bombardment of stupidity about “why this?”, “why that?”, and “how dare you?!” bullshit. Here is why: BECAUSE THAT’S HOW THE STORY IS WRITTEN!! Putting

up with the cry-baby fanboy shit for three pages - three pages of which took longer to read than the actual comic (HUGE NO-NO!) began to wear me down. I was losing faith in TWD as a whole. The story and the fans were becoming watered down. I used to save TWD to read last of my three monthly titles. Then it became the first.

Issue #102 rejuvenated me! It had dialogue worth paying attention to. I could feel the anxiety and importance of the story. It felt alive and I’m glad for that. I’m glad that I feel at home again with the group and not like an outsider begging for a chance. It might have taken me re-reading 101 previous issues, but it worked, and I suggest doing the same to any TWD veteran who feels lost or out of touch with the story.

*Thankfully, anyone fitting that description is SURELY reading this letters column.*

I hope you feel the same way too, Robert, because this is the real story, print is the real deal and will be here way longer than any lifeless digital format.

Long live analog and welcome back to the back of the line.

P.S. In Hacks #67 you said you had enough story written out for 388 issues. Where are you at with that number now?

Mr. Mitchell T. Pilon

*I was joking with the specific number. I have a solid plot through issue 200 and general ideas that could continue after that. I’m at a point with the series where I plot in 24 issue chunks, loosely... and then flesh things out as I write. I try to have at least four of those chunks planned, but there are times when a new chunk of issues is dropped in and things get pushed back... that’s why I have such far reaching plans. Basically, I’m saying this book looks like it will be around for a while.*

Mr. Kirkman,

First and foremost I want to thank you for bringing me back into the comic world. Your title of THE WALKING DEAD is the best suspense/ action/drama I have ever read. It is totally unpredictable! I have to ask you...when Negan called his bat Lucille, it made me chuckle. It reminded me of The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air when Uncle Phil broke out Lucille to help them out hustle money in a game of pool. Lucille is also the nickname of B.B. King’s guitars...so my question is, why the name Lucille?? And any relevance to Fresh Prince?

Keep up the good work!

Arthur Gallucci.

P.S. If you include this in your comic book I promise to buy 100 copies!

**One of my favorite episodes of The Fresh Prince.**

*Lucille was on my mind because of the scene in COOL HAND LUKE. I didn’t even really think about the BB King thing... if it had occurred to me, I would have picked a different name.*

Dear Mr. Kirkman (and hello and welcome Sean!),

First off I need to do some ass kissing, because TWD is amazing. The comic, the show, the game, they are all amazing. Great writing and art, compelling characters. I couldn’t sleep well for a week because of Glenn’s death! There aren’t many pieces of media that have affected me like this story has. Absolutely brilliant. It was enough to get me to start reading comics again.

Anyway, enough boot kissing. I love your inclusion of gay characters in TWD, though I wish you would spend more time on Aaron and Eric. It’s not something many horror series address without it being the means of their death as some kind of a morals lesson or something. It’s nice that someone acknowledges that gay people will exist whether our society is here or not. I love this, but have you ever considered having other LGBTQ characters in your book? I think my heart would explode with joy if I saw a transgender woman, as a transgender woman, in media that isn’t a villain or a stereotype. Just a thought.

Much love,  
Mila

**I can’t speak for whether we get to see more of Aaron and Eric, but the LGBTQ community is just as important to the tapestry of TWD as real life. Thanks for the support!**

*I want to have Aaron and Eric featured more in the book and*



***I do have plans to do that. As far as a transgendered woman goes, I'm certainly not opposed to that, and there are currently plans for that to appear in a different series that I do.***

Hello guys,

Greetings from Costa Rica! I have read every number of the comic and can't wait to read #103. How far are they from the sea or from a big lake they can use for fishing?

**Alexandria is built upon the Potomoc River, so pretty damn close.**

***Yup... and you'll be seeing it... soon. Maybe that's too big a spoiler... should I delete that? Bah!***

They always complain about running out of food and instead of hunting, fishing is something pretty much everybody could do. I wonder why this argument hasn't been explored in the past 102 issues.

***They used to hunt, we've seen that many times. It's too dangerous, currently... and zombies eat animals... so they're somewhat scarce. Imagine if the current population was suddenly roaming the hills eating every animal in sight (that they could catch). It's slim pickins out there... that's why those people in the Fear The Hunters arc... were hunting people (that and hunting animals was more difficult).***

Food cans and coffee should disappear any moment now as well as medical supplies. They have stayed there more than enough time and unless they can get some roosters and medicinal plants from Hilltop, I don't see how they are going to make it.

Anyway, thanks for this great entertainment, it is the only comic book I have read ever.

Esteban Morales  
Costa Rica

**Then read more comics! What else do you do with your time?!**

Hi Mr. Kirkman,

Am I the only one who thinks that "Something to Fear" lacked sufficient development and seemed rather crude and artificial? Am I the only one who got less bothered with the brutal death of Glenn than with the overall plot misguidance and with how unrealistic and senseless some crucial events were handled in this arc?

**I hope so...**

Everybody who has followed TWD knows that it had always been marked by difficult decisions, tense moments where the guts or the heart end up winning over the reason (which sometimes brought tragic consequences for some characters). But however irrational were such choices and events, none of them so far have been so inconsistent with the personality and previous experience of the characters.

Rick is a seasoned and experienced survivor and knew from the very beginning that the Saviors would never give up their domination over everyone and everything. Nevertheless, in "Something to Fear" you've made him take two senseless and ridiculous decisions which are totally incompatible with his knowledge and personality: 1) leaving one gangster alive to "give the message to Negan." What for?

***To draw them out? Rick had no other way of finding them. Also, he was overconfident and thought, like everyone else he's encountered since the Governor, that he would be way more capable than them and would pose a bigger threat to them than they did to him... and he was WRONG.***

2) Abandoning the community right after an attack to seek help from Jesus (what Jesus alone can possibly do to help him, since it was Jesus who first looked after Rick for help against the Saviors?) only to arrive at Hilltop, punch Mr. Gregory and turn back.

***Well, hold on there. Rick needed more man power and information... two things he knew he could get at The Hilltop. And as far as leaving when he did... another, better planned attack, could have killed them all... and by leaving RIGHT AFTER the attack, he know that would give him the most time before the next attack, no matter when it happened. That's logical. Also, again... Rick was overconfident. He's dealing with that now.***

Negan, in turn, is a ruthless leader and certainly does not give a damn about the lives of those over whom he dominates. However, even after having subdued and trapped the guy who defied his leadership, he incomprehensibly refrained from killing him. In a situation like this, it is evident that the vision of the severed heads of Rick and the others would greatly undermine the morale of the rest of the survivors, making the subjugation of the community almost automatic. Why preserve Rick, Carl and the rest?

***Now you're just spitballing, man. I don't mean to be confrontational, but I know more about Negan than you. COULD he have done what you suggest, sure... but there are reasons he did not.***

In the case of the Governor, who also wanted to take everything from Rick, it is clear that the preservation of Rick's life occurred because of a very clear and strong reason: he needed Rick alive in order to discover the location of the prison. However, there were no such reasons in neither Rick's decisions nor in Negan's. Such choices were completely meaningless and inconsistent with the personality of both characters. If "Something to Fear" was an episode in a RPG campaign, the players (me included) would surely have the right to complain that the story told by the Dungeon Master (you) has lost its internal coherence.

***Wait... what? I'm a dungeon master now?! You can criticize me ALL DAY LONG... but don't call me a dungeon master! (Commence hate mail from RPG fans now!)***

Please don't misunderstand me. I know that your intention in this arc was to create something really scary, to put the characters in a situation where they really FEARED something and that this blow necessarily had to be delivered in TWD 100. I understand that you decided to twist

the storyline in this way in order to create a strong and lasting sense of impotence among Rick and the others.

I like your work very much and I'm not going to stop with TWD just because you did something I disliked (in fact, I believe that nobody who ever wrote such thing to you really quitted. It's just ridiculous). However, after the end of the arc, I felt that the disturbance you tried to create among us readers was not so strong and lasting as it could be because of the undeniable artificiality of Rick's and Negan's decisions. It seems to me that, in the end, the strength of the horror of Glenn's horrible slaughter and of Rick's powerlessness ended up dazzled by the fact that those events didn't evolved naturally but were rather "forced" in the storyline.

Perhaps if you had given those events some more development and time to properly mature before unleashing them, they'd surely be much more terrible. I'm sure you could have done better than that.

Best regards,

João Paulo S. Vilas Boas  
Brazil

***Brazil?! Are you reading this book on illegal downloads, too?***

***I appreciate the criticism, truly. Thanks for writing in and I hope that upcoming issues are much more to your liking.***

Dear Walking Dead Geeks (rich geeks, sure, but still geeks)....

I want to say that issue #102 of TWD was the best THE WALKING DEAD letters column ever. I love the fact you have to live in constant fear now. When you think about it, that should give you a better feel for Rick and his happy group of campers as they go through their day. So, in this case, the death threats probably make you a better writer ...and.....hey.....make you even richer.....

Kirkman.....you disgust me.....You are the 1 percent.....and your fans just enabled you...

Take care....

Michael Heffron

Keep those stories coming, that is, unless Steven Yeun finds you out on the street.... seriously, be very careful. He is Asian. Probably has ninja blood...

**Thank you? And you probably have white-person-make-people-sad blood?**

***Yeah, Ninja Blood? Totally racist, man. Jesus.***

Robert and Crew,

Thanks for stretching out the comics as much as you stretched out the first portion of the second season of THE WALKING DEAD. My assumption is we will actually get some realization as to what the fuck is going on in about 15 years in the comics, which equates to about 150 years of the show.

At >\$2 a pop, the current comics aren't even worth torrenting for the time it would take me to do so, let alone the money I have spent on the actual editions. I am surprised AMC and your publishing group aren't paying people to watch and read. The first season and first, say, 60 comics were great, now you have sold out and are saying, "fuck the fans".

***I have NEVER said "fuck the fans." I've literally never said those words... I mean, SEPARATELY... yeah... together... no.***

I would rather watch the corpse of the original Starz Spartacus fight again than read your joke of a zombie comic. Way to be a sellout guys! How about delivering some real content in issues rather than continuations into milestone issues since the show came around?

It must be great to be as on-subject as the new Resident Evil movie is to the original gaming franchise that changed zombies forever, only to ruin them through commercialization.

I consider it an honor.

**He's seen every Resident Evil movie, you know. In the fucking theater.**

Thanks a lot, fuck you.

Ben D.

**The immortal Ben Dover, everybody!!! Not often we get a REAL celebrity around these parts.**

***More letters should end with "fuck you." That was AWESOME!***

**And that's all we got time for this month. But, wait, there's more comics! Check out a preview of that returning Skybound favorite, WITCH DOCTOR! The new volume, MAL PRACTICE, kicks up the horror of the original series, and it's written and illustrated by the same guys, Brandon Seifert and Lukas Ketner! It comes out in two short weeks, November 28th. Get one for you and another for your momma, too!**

**-Sean Mackiewicz**

***You're mamma told me she likes Witch Doctor a lot... last time I was "with" her, I mean. You get what I'm saying when I say "with?" Get it?***

***See you next month, readers! And remember...***

***...fuck you!***

**-Robert**



Monday: 8:49 p.m.

"YOUR SON'S TREATMENTS  
ARE GETTING WORSE."

IT  
DIDN'T  
WORK!

THE  
DIABLOSUCTION  
PUMP DIDN'T  
WORK!

THE  
LARVA'S  
TOO STRONG!  
GET READY TO  
TRY THE PUMP  
AGAIN!

KEEP  
SEDATING  
THE HOST,  
PENNY! WE  
DON'T WANT TO  
HAVE TO FIGHT A  
SUPER-STRONG  
POSSESSED  
KID, TOO!

PENNY!  
I'M CASTING  
A SPELL THAT'LL  
ATTACK THE DEMON  
LARVA'S HOLD ON  
ITS HOST!

DR. VINCENT MORROW  
Occult Physician.

TELL US WHEN IT  
WEAKENS!

"OF COURSE, IN A CASE LIKE  
THIS, THAT'S NORMAL... IGH.

"WHEN YOU'RE POSSESSED  
BY MORE THAN ONE DEMON,  
THE FIRST TO COME OUT  
ARE THE WEAK ONES."

"THE TOUGH LARVAE  
THROW THEM UNDER  
THE BUS--





"--MEDICALLY SPEAKING. SO THE LAST LARVAE ARE ALWAYS THE HARDEST TO REMOVE."

IT'S WEAKENING.

"PENNY DREADFUL"



"BUT NOT USUALLY THIS HARD."

MR. GAST...  
...NOW!

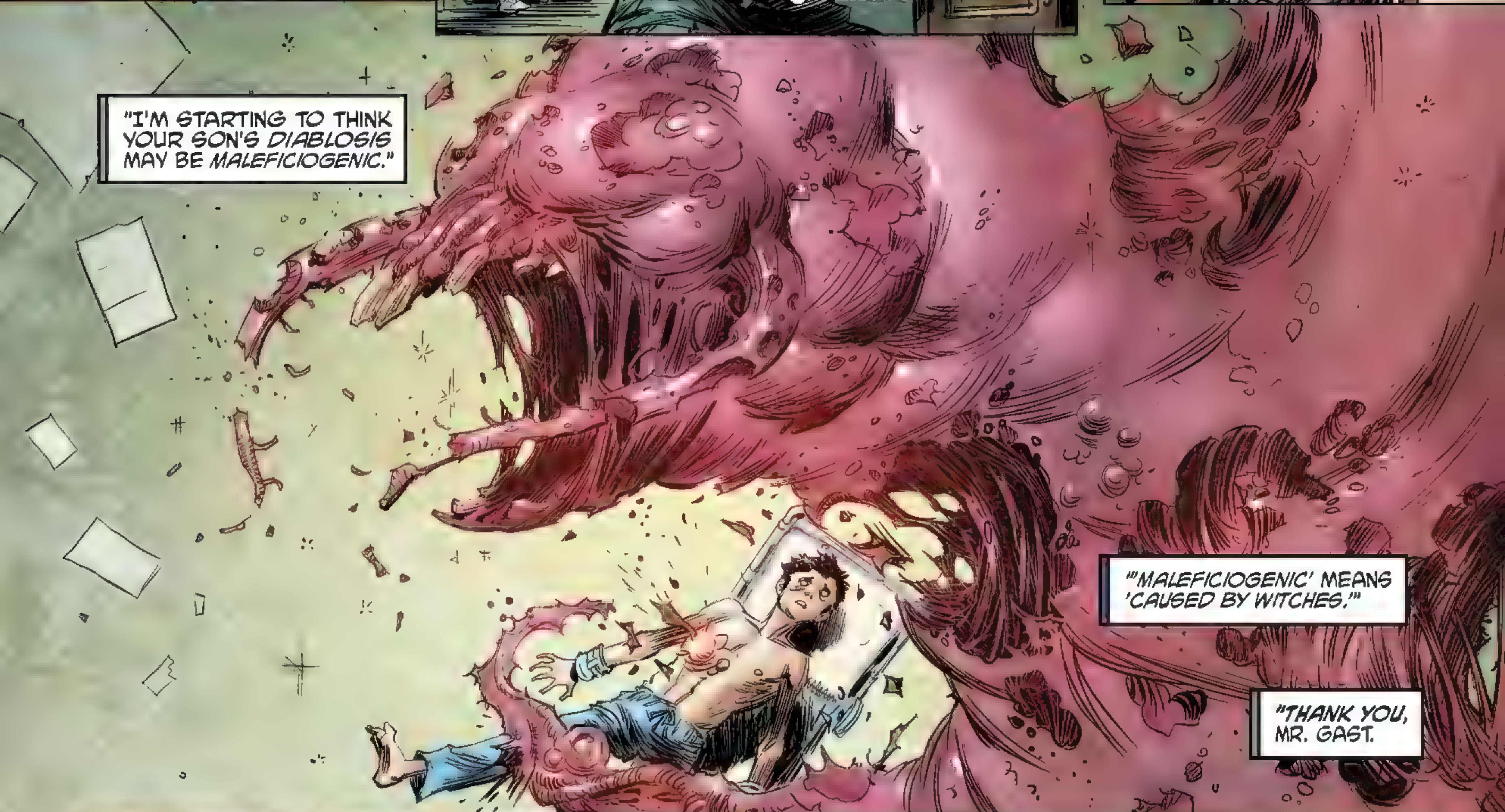
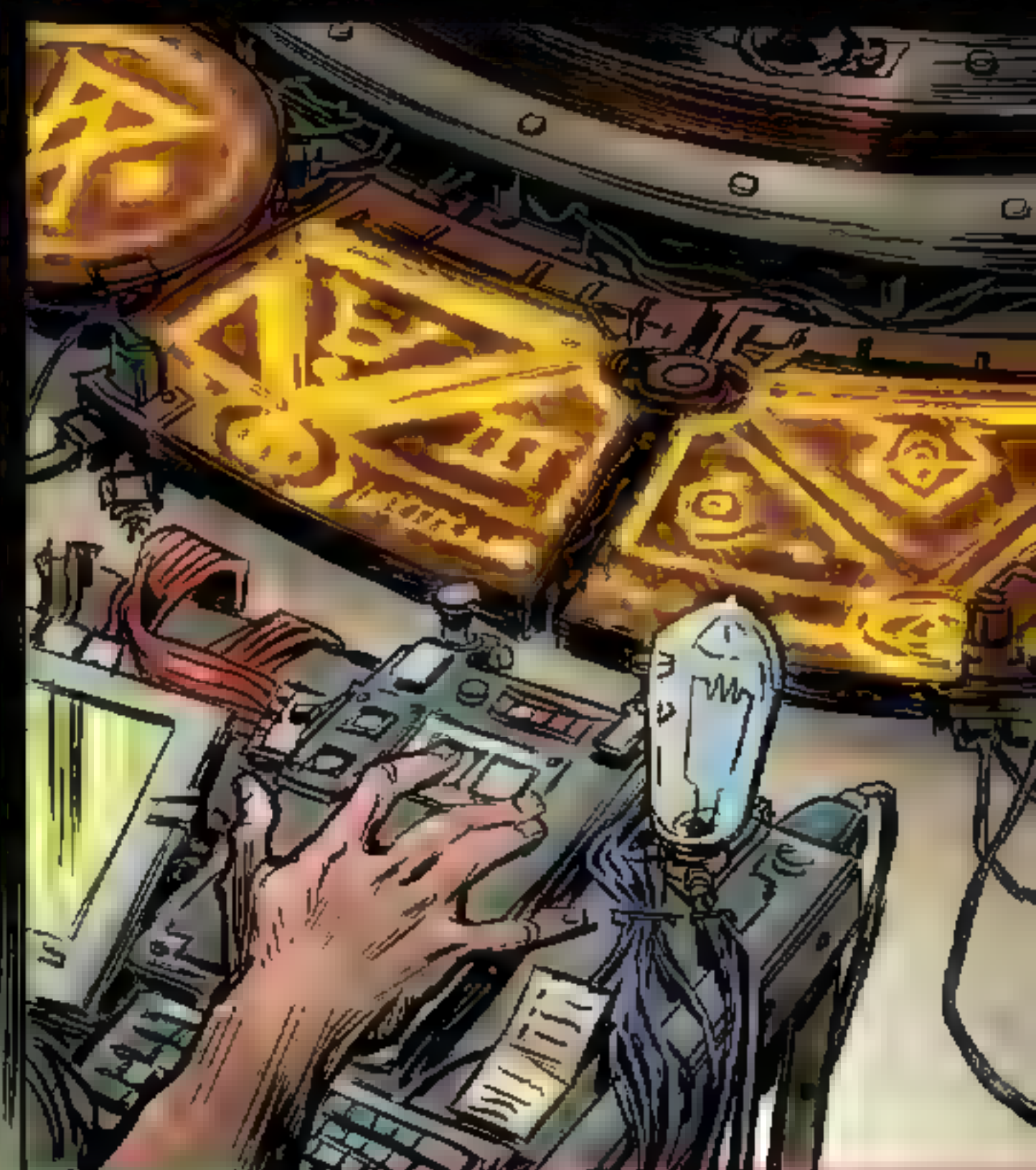


"...NOW" GENERALLY MEANS NOW!  
A GOOD TIME WOULD BE NOW!

LITTLE BUSY--

--BEING CRUSHED--  
--BY DEMONIC TELEKINESIS, SORRY!

ERIC GAST  
Paramedic.



"I'M STARTING TO THINK YOUR SON'S DIABLOSIS MAY BE MALEFICIOGENIC."

"MALEFICIOGENIC" MEANS 'CAUSED BY WITCHES.'

"THANK YOU, MR. GAST."



THANK YOU, MR. GAST.

OINK  
OINK  
OINK  
OINK  
OINK

"IT'S THE MOST VIRULENT KIND OF POSSESSION, BECAUSE YOU'RE UNDER ATTACK BY BOTH THE INFECTING DEMON--"





--AND THE *CURSE* THAT CAUSED THE INFECTION IN THE FIRST PLACE.

BUT... WHY ON EARTH WOULD SOMEBODY *CURSE* OUR SON?

OFFHAND? I'M NOT SURE. BUT THERE MAY NOT *BE* A REASON.

MAGIC-- MAGIC ISN'T *GOOD* OR *EVIL*, *BLACK* OR *WHITE*. IT'S JUST A *TOOL*. AND SOME *TOOL* USERS ARE *DOUCHEBAGS*.



BUT IT'S *NOTHING* TO WORRY ABOUT.

I DEAL WITH THIS KIND OF *STUFF* ALL THE TIME.



SO, A NEW *CHALLENGE*! IF DANIEL'S *CURSED*, HOW DO WE *DIAGNOSE* IT?

AND IF HE *IS* -- WHAT'S THE *TREATMENT*?

HOW SHOULD I *KNOW*?



BUT I *DO* KNOW...

...WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO NEXT.

**WITCH\$DOCTOR**  
MAL PRACTICE #1  
ON SALE NOVEMBER 28TH



BRANDON SEIFERT LUKAS KETNER

# WITCH DOCTOR™

MAL PRACTICE #1

NOVEMBER 2012

THE NEW VOLUME OF THE HIT HORROR SERIES.

"THANK GOODNESS WITCH DOCTOR IS RETURNING  
TO THE STANDS AGAIN SO THAT SEIFERT AND  
KETNER CAN SHOW US ALL HOW COMICS ARE DONE!"

- ROBERT KIRKMAN  
CREATOR/WRITER THE WALKING DEAD

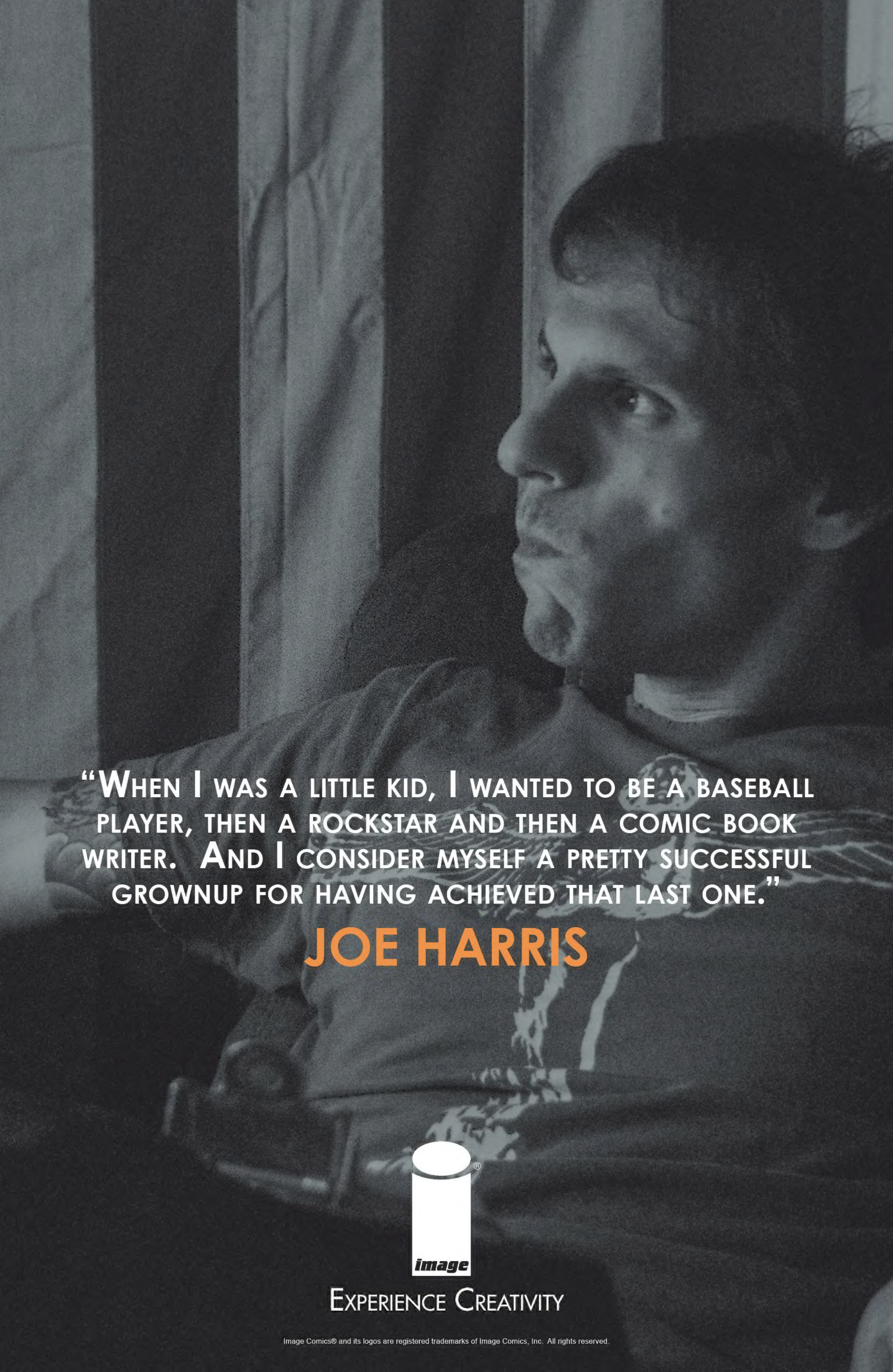


image

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A black and white photograph of Joe Harris, a man with dark hair, looking out of a window with vertical blinds. He is wearing a dark t-shirt with a graphic design. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and shadows.

**“WHEN I WAS A LITTLE KID, I WANTED TO BE A BASEBALL  
PLAYER, THEN A ROCKSTAR AND THEN A COMIC BOOK  
WRITER. AND I CONSIDER MYSELF A PRETTY SUCCESSFUL  
GROWNUP FOR HAVING ACHIEVED THAT LAST ONE.”**

**JOE HARRIS**



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EMPIRE